



Media Release - October 2008

Tourism Entrepreneur Wins British Chamber Award

Young entrepreneur, Chris Jenkins is off to the UK's capital next month to attend The Chamber Awards Final 2008 after winning Most Promising New Business in the South West of England. The announcement was made this week after judges battled through the record number of entries to the coveted Awards launched back in 2004.

Chris Jenkins, the Dorset based businessman, was thrilled to hear the achievement when notified by Dorset Business.

"It's a great honour to be acknowledged by the Chamber in this way. My company TLM is all about developing the Tourism, Leisure and Music industries. Customer Insights, Communication and Content is the foundations of TLM and I am very grateful for the support of British Chamber of Commerce and I won't let them down"

Chris's journey has seen him go from strength to strength being recognised in many sectors for his creativity and business acumen. His career began as a Bournemouth student when he launched the National Student Music Awards in 1999. Bringing together major sponsors and industry giants including BBC, MTV and EMI Chris was soon promoting gigs and tours all over the country, managing artists, running a record label and later went on to license the awards in the UK and Ireland.

In 2003 Chris returned to his hometown to look after the Bournemouth International Centre (BIC) and Pavilion Theatre. During five incredible years Chris and his team put the BIC/Pavilion truly on the map, bringing the biggest names in music, theatre and comedy to his favourite town changing the culture of the seaside resort. Earlier this year Chris stepped down as Business Development Manager to set-up Tourism Leisure Music (TLM), focusing on the industries that he loves.



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Not afraid of a challenge, Chris is also a Director and co-founder of the Dorset Music Forum, a not for profit organisation, which has already helped many unsigned artists and aspiring music entrepreneurs by giving training, guidance and encouragement to develop.

Chris Jenkins is known for his ability to motivate and energise those around him and TLM's Wittdo project does just that for the tourism industry. Wittdo (*What Is There To Do?*) combines business intelligence software and his passion for tourism. Chris, Director of TLM said *"Each of us is born with only a certain amount of time on this earth – Wittdo helps you figure out how's best to use it."*

In October 2007 Chris won the Enterprise Pavilion prize for Best Start-Up for the Wittdo project and now a year he was chosen above hundreds of others and recognised as the Most Promising New Business in the South West of England.

Chris Jenkins has been invited to the finals to compete against the nationwide market. The prestigious event is being held at London's Natural History Museum which will be a spectacular night and the proud business man, still only 28 years of age, will be there. We wish Chris the best of luck and what a true asset to Bournemouth and the South of the country. Well done Chris!!!

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